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Item 20 of the provisional agenda\*

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER  
RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL  
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Letter dated 18 July 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of  
the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations  
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit enclosed herewith, a letter of 1 July 1995 from the participants in the second reunion of humanitarian aid donors-Yugoslav citizens and emigrants abroad (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under item 20 of the provisional agenda.

(Signed) Bratislav DJORDJEVIC  
Minister Plenipotentiary  
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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\* A/50/150.

ANNEX

Allow us to inform you that the second reunion of humanitarian aid donors was held at Belgrade from 30 June to 2 July 1995, attended by 150 of us, Yugoslav citizens and emigrants from 13 European countries, the United States of America, Australia and Canada, representing numerous associations of Serbs and Montenegrins in diaspora. As I trust you are aware, our associations collect and deliver in an organized fashion humanitarian relief supplies to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and to the war-ridden areas, intended for the civilian population and refugees. In pursuing our humanitarian activities and during visits to our homeland, we are constantly confronted with the increasingly grave consequences of the lengthy sanctions imposed on the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, specifically in terms of the overall humanitarian and social situation, affecting the most vulnerable population categories, in particular children, the ill and the elderly, refugees and sufferers who have found refuge in the motherland and whose numbers have considerably grown after the exodus of Serbs from western Slavonia and the attacks on zones under United Nations protection.

Proceeding from the fact that these prolonged and inhumane sanctions seriously imperil the health and indeed the biological survival of the people that we ourselves belong to, who have, even under such circumstances, taken into their homes 94.8 per cent of the total number of refugees in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, irrespective of their national or religious affiliation, and from the fact that virtually all resources in the parent country have been exhausted and that humanitarian aid is by and large the only means of survival, we are addressing to you an appeal from this reunion to do everything in your power for the unjustified sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to be lifted as soon as possible.

In this context, we would also like to stress that, of late, humanitarian aid from principal international humanitarian organizations has been declining considerably, and that in fact none has been forthcoming from the Governments of some countries, whereby the humanitarian situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the war-ridden areas has been yet further exacerbated. In this connection, may we also appeal on you to do your best for humanitarian relief from these sources to be increased.

Faced with great difficulties, and having to wait for a long time to be issued the required United Nations permits to deliver humanitarian aid to our country, we are kindly asking you to take all measures at your disposal for the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 724 (1991) concerning Yugoslavia to expedite to the maximum its procedures in deciding our applications related to humanitarian aid deliveries.

We are convinced that you will appreciate our concern for our nation, our families, our relatives and our friends in the country, who have in no way contributed to this situation, in which they are exposed to vast suffering. Confident of your principled attitude and consistent upholding of the tenets of humanitarian law and of proclaimed human rights enshrined in accepted international documents, as well as of your personal goodwill and humaneness, may we ask you once again to favourably consider our justified demands and take measures for their accommodation.

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